RATION CARDS—CHECKING OF

25. **Mr. M. I. Paul** *(Narakkal):* Will Government be pleased to state.—
(a) whether any bonus has been allowed to the checkers of the ration cards;
(b) if so, whether any of them has been paid and who are they, if any?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* (a) Yes. Rs. 5 to each checking officer.
(b) No. Since the exact amount of expenditure involved could not be fixed and sanctioned without ascertaining the number of teachers entrusted with the work and verifying their claims, there was some delay in disbursing the allowance. Payment will be made soon.

The next question No. 26 and this question relate to the same subject matter. I request that these questions may be allowed to be answered together.

Mr. P. Narayana Menon *(Trippunittura):* No.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I also beg to add, for the information of this House, that we have already paid allowances to 827 teachers and money for 460 teachers have been drawn and entrusted to the Head Masters as regards those who worked in the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluks. I have not got the exact figure for the other taluks where some also amounts must have been drawn and paid.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* May I know, Sir, whether the request to these teachers are addressed through the Director of Public Instruction to take up this work?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes, with his consent only.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Whether teachers of aided schools are also asked to do this work.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* May I know whether the responsibility is obligatory. Whether it is optional or otherwise that these teachers should do this work?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* To a certain extent it is obligatory.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Whether it is also obligatory for teachers in aided institutions?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* What power has Government got to compel the aided institutions to do this work as obligatory?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The only difficulty expressed by teachers was personal inconvenience. No head of a private institution has expressed any difficulty. In fact there was willing co-operation.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Has there been a resignation of one teacher of a private institution on the ground that he was compelled to take up this work?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I want notice.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Through what agency this amount was distributed?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Through the Education Department. It is not distributed by the Head of the Department but it is sent to the heads of the institutions from which the teachers have been selected.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ആർ കൃഷ്ണൻ എഴത്തഛൻ: ആകെ എത്ര അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരെ ഈ ജോലിക്ക ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയെന്ന പറയാമോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It was only on the 11th of May when the consolidated list was prepared.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ആർ. കൃഷ്ണൻ എഴത്തഛൻ: ഈ പറഞ്ഞ വിവരത്തിൽനിന്ന് എത്ര ആളെ ആകെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയെന്നാണ് മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടത്?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The whole area was divided into convenient groups. Only after the work was over we got the exact number of teachers deputed for this work. The teachers of a school send up their lists to the Headmaster and the Headmaster sends up that list to the Assistant Supply Officer of that division and the Assistant Supply Officer consolidates the lists and send them to my office and we consolidate the whole and forward it to Government. Some delay was inevitable.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ആർ. കൃഷ്ണൻ എഴത്തഛൻ: ഈ ജോലി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയ അവസരത്തിൽ എത്ര ആളുകളെ ഈ ജോലിക്കെടുക്കണം എന്ന നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നുവോ?

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Checking work was conducted on the last four days of January. In some cases it was extended to a week or so.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ആർ. കൃഷ്ണൻ എഴത്തശ്ശൻ: ഈ ജോലിയിൽ എത്രയാളുകൾ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന് അറിയാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണോ ഈ പണം കൊടുക്കുവാൻ താമസമുണ്ടായതു?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It was then thought that it should be done as an honorary work. Government are very grateful to those teachers.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ആർ. കൃഷ്ണൻ എഴത്തശ്ശൻ: ഒരാൾ ഒരു ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നുവെന്നുവെച്ചാൽ ആ ജോലിയിൽ അയാൾ എത്ര പ്രോഗ്രസ് കാണിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു കണ്ടതിനുശേഷമേ പ്രതിഫലം കൊടുക്കുകയുള്ളുവെന്ന് ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നുവോ?

Raq Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* This allowance, we know, will not go a great way to meet all their needs.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസഫ് സി. ചിറയത്ത്: റേഷൻകാർഡ് ആദ്യം വിതരണംചെയ്യുന്നതിനു പ്രതിഫലവും കൊടുക്കുകയുണ്ടായോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Last time there was some complaint that some allowance should be given for this work.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: എത്ര ദിവസംകൊണ്ടാണ് ഈ ജോലി അവസാനിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* We are sorry for the delay. I have already explained the reason for the same.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know which is the agency that selects the teachers from aided schools. Is it the Manager of the School concerned or somebody else?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It was with the consent of the Director that the Proceedings were issued that aided school teachers also should help.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I think I have not been understood. I shall put the question again. The medium of communication, was it the Manager concerned or was someone else other than the Manager?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It was either the Manager or the Headmaster.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: എത്ര ദിവസം വേണ്ടിവന്നു, ആ ജോലി തീർക്കുവാനായിട്ടു?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Ssupplies):* I have already explained.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezuhthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Whether this munificent bonus of 5 rupees is fixed according to the quantum of work turned out or was it a uniform rate?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It was a uniform rate.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Then where was the difficulty in assessing.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* We have to know before drawing the necessary amount the number of teachers deputed for this work and also whether they have done the work and submitted the report to us.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: നാലുദിവസംകൊണ്ടാണോ അവസാനിച്ചതു?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It is a matter of opinion.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: ശരാശരി എത്രദിവസം വേണ്ടിവന്നിരിക്കും?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The work of the teachers has to be checked by the Headmaster and those reports have to be sent to the Assistant Supply Officer of that division and he again has to check it.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസഫ് സി. ചിറയത്ത്: റേഷൻ കാർഡ് വിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു മാസ്റ്റർമാർക്ക് അലവൻസ് കൊടുക്കാമെന്നുള്ള ധാരണ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനുണ്ടായിരുന്നുവോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes. But there was some delay on the part of the Headmasters. It is enough if two or three delay the submission of the report. Before it was forwarded to the Assistant Supply Officer there was some delay on the part of the teachers and the Supply Officers got the list only by the end of May.

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മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസഫ് സി. ചിറയത്ത്: റേഷൻകാർഡ് വിതരണം, ചെക്കിങ്ങ്, സ്റ്റാറിസ്റ്റിക്സ്, എന്നിങ്ങനെയുള്ള ജോലികൾ വേതനം കൂടാതെ നടത്തുന്നതിന് സാധാരണയായി ഉപയോഗിക്കാവുന്ന കരുക്കളാണ് അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ എന്ന ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്ന ബോദ്ധ്യമുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*) : They were doing this in addition to their normal duties.

Mr. Joseph C. Chirayath *(Nellayi)*: Were not instructions issued to the teachers that some remuneration would be paid to them for this extra work?

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam)*: May I know, Sir, whether teachers have the right to decline this work?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*) : Of course it was thought that they will not decline to take up this additional work.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam)*: What was the reason for selecting teachers for this work?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: They were selected for census work and we thought they would be more helpful.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Was it because of the fact that they were the most honest persons who could be relied upon to do this responsible work?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes, it was thought they could be relied on or to do the work.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസഫ് സി. ചിറയത്ത്: വെറുതെ ഗ്രോസറ്റ്സ് ആണെന്നുമറും പറഞ്ഞാൽ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ വയറു നിറയുമെന്ന ഗവൺമെണ്ടു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: It has to be said that the Headmaster has to check the list prepared by the teachers and he has to submit the report to the Assistant Supply Officer. If one or two teachers did not furnish the full information there would be delay and so there was some delay in getting the final report.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസഫ് സി. ചിറയത്ത്: ഇത്രവണ എന്തെങ്കിലും മാണേറിയം കൊടുക്കേതാണെന്ന ഗവൺമെണ്ടു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Unfortunately it was necessary that the names of all the persons who worked should be forwarded to Government as the Comptroller of Accounts insisted upon the same.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, whether requests for exemption from this work for sufficient grounds was given to any case?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes. Where exemptions have been granted substitutes were also been appointed.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: In that case did not the Government know the total number of teachers deputed for this work before the first day on which the process was started.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes. But that information will not always be available here. That information will be available only if the Headmaster makes the report.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Before the work is started whether the authority concerned is now in possession of the total number of hands engaged.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: It will be available only to the authority under whom the teachers worked and not the departmental head.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: The question seems to proceed, Sir, from a feeling that the Government have fully remunerated these teachers. Government feel that such obligations can never be fully remunerated. This only I consider as a token of appreciation rather than anything else. And speaking for the teachers I may say they have made large sacrifices for which they did not expect any return.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam)*: When was this decision to pay bonus was taken?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: When the scheme was sanctioned.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I rest assured there will not be a recurrence of this nature if unfortunately we have to conduct another checking.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes.

26. **Mr. P. Narayana Menon** *(Trippunithura)*: Will Government be pleased to state,—

(a) when were the ration cards checked last by the Food Department;

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